



NOVEL QUATERNARY AMMONIUM COMPOUNDS

DESCRIPTION OF RELATED APPLICATIONS

- This application claims priority to Japanese Patent Application
- 5 No. 2002-248586 filed on August 28, 2002, Japanese Patent Application
No. 2002-364725 filed on December 17, 2002, U.S. Provisional
Application Serial No. 60/407291 filed September 3, 2002, and U.S.
Provisional Application Serial No. 60/434416 filed December 19, 2002
under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. 119 and 35 U.S.C. 120. The
- 10 contents of these applications are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1) Field of the Invention

- The present invention relates to novel benzothiazepine
- 15 compounds having a thioamide bond and a quaternary ammonium
substituent and to pharmaceutical compositions which contain them.
Moreover, the present invention relates to pharmaceutical compositions
for the treatment of cholestasis-caused hepatopathy and the like.

20 2) Description of the Related Art

- Hyperlipidemia means a state where neutral fat, cholesterol and
the like in blood are at higher levels than the normal levels and has
been known to deserve a treatment since it is a main risk factor in
ischemic diseases. Moreover, hyperlipidemia is also known to cause
- 25 arteriosclerosis and in particular, to decrease blood cholesterol level is